

**Listing of the Claims:**

The following is a complete listing of all the claims in the application, with an indication of the status of each:

- 1           1-8. Canceled
- 
- 1           9 (Previously Presented). A distributed method for processing descending  
2           auction traffic using one or more servers at a plurality of nodes in a  
3           distributed processing system comprising the steps of:  
4                 using a current local winner determination method at each of the  
5           nodes to identify loser bids and candidate winning bids, wherein the  
6           current local winner determination method comprises the steps of:  
7                 (a) receiving a bid ( $q$ ) for processing, where  $q$  is the quantity  
8                 desired at going price  $p$ ;  
9                 (b) determining whether the bid is in the first  $\lfloor R/q \rfloor$  bids, asking  
10                for quantity  $q$  at price  $p$ , where  $\lfloor x \rfloor$  stands for the greatest  
11                integer less than or equal to  $x$  and  $R$  is a currently remaining  
12                quantity on auction;  
13                (c) if the bid is in the first  $\lfloor R/q \rfloor$  bids, asking for quantity  $q$  at the  
14                going price  $p$ , then declaring the bid a candidate winner bid;  
15                and  
16                (d) making the candidate winner bid available for further  
17                processing by the current global winner determination  
18                method; and  
19                using a current global winner determination method to determine  
20           from the candidate winning bids from each of the nodes a current set of  
21           winners.
- 
- 1           10 (Original). The method of claim 9, further comprising the steps of:  
2                giving bids processed by the method a time stamp of arrival; and  
3                determining whether the time stamp, if it exists on the bid, is  
4                greater than or equal to the time stamp of any bid, asking for quantity  $q$  at

5       going price  $p$ , that has been processed by the method in the past.

1       11 (Currently amended). The method of claim 9 ~~1~~, wherein bidders submit  
2       multi-item bids and the bids may be indivisible.